

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 5 1. A liquid for producing a marker vapour, comprising:
a fluorescent substance in solution in a carrier liquid,
the fluorescent substance having a first vapourization
temperature range at which the fluorescent substance vapourizes
and the carrier liquid having a second vapourization
10 temperature range at which the carrier liquid vapourizes and
the second vapourization temperature range overlapping the
first vapourization range.
2. The liquid for producing a marker vapour as defined in
15 Claim 1, wherein the fluorescent substance has a first critical
point at which the liquid and vapour phases of the fluorescent
substance are in equilibrium, and the carrier liquid has a
second critical point at which the liquid and vapour phases of
the carrier liquid are at equilibrium, the first critical point
20 and the second critical point being substantially the same.
3. The liquid for producing a marker vapour as defined in
Claim 1, wherein the fluorescent substance and the carrier
liquid are non-toxic.
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4. The liquid for producing a marker vapour as defined in
Claim 1, wherein the carrier liquid is one of oil and
glycerine.

5. A method of producing a marker vapour, comprising the steps of:

providing a fluorescent marker liquid consisting of a
5 fluorescent substance in solution in a carrier liquid, the
fluorescent substance having a first vapourization temperature
range at which the fluorescent substance vapourizes and the
carrier liquid having a second vapourization temperature range
at which the carrier liquid vapourizes, the second
10 vapourization temperature range overlapping the first
vapourization range; and

vapourizing the fluorescent marker liquid at a temperature
that is within both the first vapourization temperature range
and the second vapourization temperature range, thereby forming
15 a vapour that is visible when exposed to radiation of suitable
wavelength.

6. The method as defined in Claim 5, wherein the fluorescent
substance has a first critical point at which the liquid and
20 vapour phases of the fluorescent substance are in equilibrium,
and the carrier liquid has a second critical point at which the
liquid and vapour phases of the carrier liquid are at
equilibrium, the first critical point and the second critical
point being substantially the same.

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7. The method as defined in Claim 5, the fluorescent marker
liquid being vapourized by application onto a heated substrate.

8. The method as defined in Claim 7, the application of the
30 fluorescent marker liquid onto the heated substrate being by
atomizing through an atomizing nozzle.

9. The method as defined in Claim 7, the heated substrate
being a concave surface.

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10. A method of inspection with marker vapour, comprising the steps of:

providing a fluorescent marker liquid consisting of a
5 carrier liquid containing a fluorescent substance;

vapourizing the marker liquid to produce a marker vapour;

directing the marker vapour into a pressure container
being inspected for pressure leaks;

10 inspecting an exterior of the pressure container under
radiation of suitable wavelength to cause the fluorescent
substance to fluoresce.

11. The method as defined in Claim 10, including the further
step of gradually increasing pressure in the container while
15 continuing to inspect the pressure container under radiation
of suitable wavelength.

12. The method as defined in Claim 10, the marker liquid
consisting of a fluorescent substance in solution in a carrier
20 liquid, the fluorescent substance having a first vapourization
temperature range at which the fluorescent substance vapourizes
and the carrier liquid having a second vapourization
temperature range at which the carrier liquid vapourizes and
the second vapourization temperature range overlapping the
25 first vapourization range.

13. The method as defined in Claim 12, wherein the fluorescent
substance has a first critical point at which the liquid and
vapour phases of the fluorescent substance are in equilibrium,
30 and the carrier liquid has a second critical point at which the
liquid and vapour phases of the carrier liquid are at
equilibrium, the first critical point and the second critical
point being substantially the same.

35 14. The method as defined in Claim 10, the fluorescent marker
liquid being vapourized by application onto a heated substrate.

15. The method as defined in Claim 14, the application of the fluorescent marker liquid onto the heated substrate being by atomizing through an atomizing nozzle.
- 5 16. The method as defined in Claim 14, the heated substrate being a concave surface.